ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Geneva Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

New Hope Baptist Church, Holmes Co., Fla.,

October 22, 23 and 24, 1892.

OFFICERS:

Rev. W. A. CUMBIA, Moderator ..... Wicksburg, Ala.
A. B. JERNIGAN, Clerk ..... Dundee, "
M. A. CRUTCHFIELD, Treasurer ..... Geneva, "

Next session will be held with Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Geneva Co., Ala., commencing on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1893.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.:
THE ALABAMA PRINTING COMPANY.
1893.

MINUTES.

SATURDAY, OCT., 22, 1892.

The Geneva Baptist Association met this day at New Hope Baptist church, Holmes county, Florida, at 11 a. m. After singing some songs of praises the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. A. B. Riddle. Text, 1 Cor. 4:20, "For the Kingdom of God is not in words, but in power." The delegates were requested to meet in the house at 2 p. m., for business. Announcement was made that dinner had been provided on the ground for all, and everyone was cordially invited to partake.

AFTERNOON SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Read the Fifth Psalm, and prayer by Bro. M. Osburn.

Letters were called for from several churches and read by Bros. J. F. Register, W. Allen Cumbia.

The following churches and their messengers were enrolled:

Adoniram—R. H. Martin, W. E. Whidden.
Elbethel—J. G. Brown, R. S Abott.
Friendship—R. Mills, T. J. Dixon, Wm. Brackens.
Geneva—M. H. Sellers.
Limestone—G. J. Scott.
New Hope—J. A. Huggins, B. F. Tadlock.
New Home—(Not represented).
New Prospect—(Not represented).
New Teman—J. W. Tew.
Pleasant Hill—J. C. Riggels, W. T. Simpson, J. T. Sterling.
Pleasant Grove—W. H. Grubbs, E. A. Majors.
Pilgrim's Rest—W. A. Cumbia, J. A. Clarke.
Shiloh—A. B. Jernigan, A. S. Peacock.
Spring Creek—M. A. Crutchfield.
Zion Hill—J. L. C. White, Wm. Fortsom.

Upon motion the Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer were elected by tellers. Results:

Rev. Willian A. Cumbia, Moderator.

A. B. Jernigan, Clerk.

M. A. Crutchfield, Treasurer.

After a few remarks by the Moderator, he announced that the body was ready for business.

Called for petitionary letters. Received:

Zion Hill with messengers, J. L. C. White and Wm. Fortsom, who were received with welcome.

Appointment of Committee on Divine Service, as follows:

Bros. J. L. C. White, J. A. Clark, with the delegates of New Hope church.

Called for Correspondence:

Received Bro. A. R. Stewart from Zion Association.
Bros. Allen Cumbia, A. L. Anderson, Sr., A. L Anderson, Jr., and John R. Anderson from the Graves Association (Fla.)
Bro. Dave Allen from the Salem Association.
Bro. G. J. Canaut from the Newton Association.
Bros. Judson Brooks and Willis, from the Pea River Association.

The following Committees were appointed:

On Finance—W. T. Simpson, J. C. Riggels, A. S. Peacock.
On Sabbath Schools—W. M. Brackens, B. F. Tadlock.
On Documents—J. A. Clark, E. A. Majors, J. A. Huggins.
On Bible Distribution—J. T. Dixon.
On Periodicals—R. H. Martin, J. W. Tew.
On Missions—J. F. Register, G. J. Scott, M. A. Crutchfield.
On Temperance—Jno. Martin, W. E Whidden.
On Nominations—J. L C. White, Wm. Fortsom.
On Education—R. Mills, J G. Brown, J. T. Starling.
On Deceased Ministers—W. H. Grubbs, R. D. Abott.

Call for report on Divine Services as follows:

Bro. Dave Allen to preach to-night and Bro. William Cumbia Sunday at 11 a. m.
Bro. Judson Brooks to close.

J. L. C. White,
Chairman.

Upon motion the body adjurned till 8 a. m. Monday.

SUNDAY SERVICE.

At 11 a. m., devotional services were conducted by Bro. W. S. Cumbia; Text, John 12.26, "If any man serve me, let him follow me," etc.

At 3 p. m. by Bro. M. Osburn; Text, John 5:39, "Search the Scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they that testify of me." Closed by Bro. J. A. Huggins.

These two old veterans have labored in the Master's vineyard for many years, and great have been their work by leading many souls to the light of the Eternal Majesty on high. But, alas! their missions are about filled upon this earth. A few more days and they will be called to rest by the cold hands of death from their labors on this sin-cursed earth, doubtless before another meeting of this Association. May their last days be their happiest, by the comforting Spirit of the blessed Redeemer, is our prayers.

MONDAY—8 P. M.

The body was called to order by the moderator.

After singing "Blessed Home," and prayer by Bro. G. J. Canaut, regular order of business was resumed.

Call for correspondence renewed.

Roll called and corrected.

Upon motion Bro. M. H. Sellers was selected to represent Geneva church.

REPORT ON SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

Your committee on Sabbath-schools beg leave to make the following report:

We regret that this highly important part of church work is so much neglected. We say, neglected. We are governed by the letters in this Association. Several sessions ago the committee on Sabbath-schools recommended that each church should report the Sabbath-schools to the Association in their letters. We remember but three churches reported Sabbath-schools. Why this neglect of such important charge committed to our care, the religious training of our children, each having immortal souls to be saved or lost? We would call your attention to that passage of Scripture: "Train up a child in the way he should go," etc.

Repectfully submitted,

WM. BRACKENS,
Chairman.

Upon motion, Bro. J. G. Brown was allowed to supplement the Elbethel church letter, with report on Sabbath-school.

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

We your committee submit the following:

We have carefully examined all the papers submitted to us. We find that two churches have asked for the next session of this Association, and we recommend that our next session be held with Pleasant Hill Baptist church, Geneva county, Alabama, seventeen miles northeast of the town of Geneva, and four miles East of Dundee. We find among the papers, Query No. 1, which we submit to the body for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. CLARK,
J. A. HUGGINS,
E. A. MAJORS,
Committee.

Upon motion the query was read by the Clerk.

Query:—Is it right for us as Baptists to receive members from anti-misionary churches on their anti-missionary baptism?

W. A. CUMBIA,
Moderator.

After some deliberate discussions, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1st. That it is the sense of this Association, that to receive persons from anti-missionary societies or churches on their baptism is not Scriptural.

Resolved, 2. That this Association will not hereafter receive churches into this union which hold members received on anti-missionary baptism.

REPORT ON BIBLE DISTRIBUTION.

Your committee on Bible Distribution, after a careful consideration of the subject and in view of its importance, think that the report of committee made at the last session can not be improved any other way except such improvements as may from time to time be suggested by experience. Imperfection is hard to discover in any place until it has been tried. Then your committee would urge the Association to act upon the plan already adopted for the Distribution of the Bible.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. DIXON,
Chairman.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your committee on Missions have had the subject under consideration, and ask to submit the following:

We all agree that the Missionary work is the outgrowth of the church or is perhaps more properly stated, an important and highly important part of church work. While this is an acknowledged fact, it is attended with more serious difficulties than perhaps any other branch of church work. In consideration of the subject, questions quite difficult of solution present themselves to the mind of your committee, we are far short of the progress that we ought to be making. We believe, however, that the unusual political excitement has had gread tendency to retard Missionary opperations. The first thing to be done is to adopt a plan, and your committee is of the opinion that the plan adopted at your last session is a good one, if put in operation and pursued. No doubt experience would suggest improvement, as all other plans when first adopted are more or less crude, and we believe that until tried and proven to be insufficient the plan adopted at the last session should remain as the plan of our Missionary and colporteur work of this Association. The question of funds to successfully put the plan in operation is the one most difficult of solution. No plan is worth anything unless we are active in co-operating upon it; now we are confronted with the question, "How are we to raise funds to put the plan in action? for nothing has been done in this direction, and certainly nothing can be done until means are provided. Ten dollars and a haif is reported by the church letters, we are thankful for this, but it would not more than buy Bibles and Testaments for the colportage work. We feel at a loss to suggest a plan for this indispensable work of raising money.

Your committee recommend that all 5th Sabbaths in the ensuing associational year be devoted to Missionary meetings, to be held under the direction of our Missionary Board, whose duty it shall be to arrange program etc., giving prominence to Missonary work and Sabbath-schools. We further recommend that funds raised for Missionary purposes be paid to the secretery of the Missionary Board, subject to the order of the said Board.

Respectfully submitted,

J. F. Register,
G. J. Scott.
M A. Crutchfield.

Upon motion, the body adjourned for preaching by Brother John F. Register. Text: 2nd Cor., 4:6, "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

2 p. m. The body was called to order by the Moderator.

Sang "Jesus, I love thy charming name."

Prayer by Bro. A. B. Riddle.

Bro. J. F. Register offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That there be an amount raised by pledges equal to the cash in the treasury, after expenses of the association are paid, to be paid at the next session of this body and the cash balance now in treasury be paid to sister J. C. Coleman.

Adopted.

PLEDGES.

J. F Register	$5 00	R. H. Martin	$1 00
R. Mills	5 00	A. S. Peacock	2 00
E. P. Webb	1 00	B. H. Scott	1 00
A. B. Riddle	1 00	R D. Abott	1 00
I. C. Owens	1 00	W. T. Simpson	2 00

W. Allen Cumbia	1 00	Wm. Fortsom	1 00
J. M. Renfroe	2 00	G. W. Canaut	1 00
J. L C. White	2 00	M. H. Sellers	3 00
A. B. Jernigan	2 00		
Total			$32 00

CASH.

J. F. Register	$ .25	J. T. S arling	$ .50
R. Mills	25	L. R. Canaut	25
G. J. Scott	75	J. C. Riggles	50
W. T. Simpson	25		
Total			$2 75

(The cash amount was paid to Sister J. C. Coleman.)

There was also a collection taken for Bros. M. Osburn and J. A. Huggins to the amount of $4.50 each.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

We, your Committee on Periodicals, submit the following report:

We deem it proper that every family should be supplied with literature, and we know of nothing better than to say, that while every family should be supplied with literature it should be good religious literature We are sorry to say, but it is true, many families have their homes well supplied with literature, but part or all of it is not fit for any one to read, to say the least of children, whom the blessed Redemer said you should bring them up in the way you would have them go, and "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Now, brethren, we insist, each and every one of us look well to what kind of literature we lay before our children. We have good literature the kind we should be supplied with We recommend our denominational literature, and we especially recommend our State paper, The Alabama Baptist. and the Florida Baptist Witness. We also ask our Sabbath-schools to patronize our Colportage board at Opelika, Ala, for Sabbath-school literature, also the American Baptist Publication Society, at Atlanta, Ga.

Respectfully submitted,

R. H. Martin,
J. W. Tew.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance submit the following report:

We are happy to say that the evil of intemperance is decreasing in our bounds. There is but one place in our knowledge in the bounds of this association that whiskey is sold, and that is at Geneva, though we find in some churches that there are some that take intoxicating drinks. Let us do all in our power to remove this evil from among us.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. Whidden.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee on Nominations submit the following report:

We name Bro. J. F. Register to preach the Introductory Sermon and Bro. Joseph Hinson, alternate We name Bros J. F. Register and W. Cumbia as delegates to the Baptist State Convention to be held at Anniston, Ala., beginning the 22 November, 1892.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. C. White,
Wm. Fortsom.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education submit the following report:

We are pleased to report that each year develops more and more energy in this direction, and as a result of this increased energy illiteracy is mov-

ing in front of increased intelligence as darkness moves from light. We recommend that every advantage be taken that is offered by the public for literary advancement for our future success in the temporal affairs of life. Such depends upon cultivated minds, as every year presents us with new problems difficult of solution, and it is only by possessing cultivated minds that we discover the hidden things of nature

Your committee, however, would impress upon the minds of all the still greater necessity of having a cultivated heart, and commend to all the Sabbath-school and other institutions of the church, which are within the reach of all. Look well, brethren, to the education of the heart.

Respectfully submitted,

J. G. Brown,
J. T. Starling,
R. Mills.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your Committee on Deceased Ministers beg leave to make the following report:

We find that the Lord in his great mercy has spared to us all our ministering brothers another year, for which let us be thankful to Him who doeth all things well.

Respectfully submitted.

R D. Abott, Ch'n.

Upon motion, that the first Missionary meeting of this Association be held with Limestone Baptist church on the fifth Sabbath and Saturday before in January, 1893.

Upon motion, that the meeting of this Association be changed from Saturday to Friday. Motion lost.

PLEDGES FOR MISSIONARY WORK.

G. J. Scott	$10 00	I. C Owens	$1 00
J. F. Register	5 00	W. T. Simpson	2 00
G. J. Canaut	5 00	B. H. Scott	2 00
J. G. Brown	3 00	M. H. Sellers	2 00
Wm. Fortsom	1 00		
Total			$31 00

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Balance on hand	$29 15
For minutes	17 00
Associational purposes	11 55
Home Mission Board	10 25
Collection on Sunday	4 15
Total	$72 10

We also find that the church at Geneva has sent the following amount to Bro. W. B. Crumpton $102 95

Respectfully submitted,

W. T. Simpson,
J. C. Riggel,
A. S. Peacock.

Upon motion, that the clerk be paid $35.00 for his services and printing the minutes, and the balance to Sister J. C. Coleman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

DR.

To amount received from former treasurer	$29 15
To amount received from Finance committee	42 95
Total	$72 10

CR.

By amount paid to clerk.....$35 00
By amount paid to Sister Coleman..... 37 10

Total.....$72 10

M. A. CRUTCHFIELD, Treasurer.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to this church and community for their kind hospitalities extended to us during our stay among them, praying that the great Ruler of the universe shall continue to bless them.

After singing, the delegates extended each other the parting hand. The Association adjourned to meet with Pleasant Hill Baptist church, Geneva county, Alabama, seventeen miles northeast of the town of Geneva and four miles east of Dundee, on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1893.

REV. W. A. CUMBIA, MODERATOR.

A. B. JERNIGAN, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. A. Huggins.....Holmes, Fla.
M. Osburn.....Eunola, Ala.
W. A. Cumbia.....Wickburg, Ala.
A. B. Riddle.....Holmes, Fla.
Joseph Hinson.....Geneva, Ala.
W. Allen.....Marl, Ala.
J. F. Register.....Marl, Ala.
W. H. Webb.....Geneva, Ala.

LICENTIATES.

Daniel Cotney.....Graceville, Fla.
Thomas Crutchfield.....Graceville, Fla.
W. T. Simpson.....Dundee, Ala.

STATISTICS OF GENEVA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1892.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	PASTOR'S P. O.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	Baptized.	Received by Letter	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Deaths.	Present Membership.	Membership Last Reported.	Increase.	Sunday Meetings.
Adoniram	A. B. Riddle	Holmes	W. E Whidden	Devonia, Ala	6	..	1	2	..	2	30	27	3	2
Elbethel	Joseph Hinson	Geneva, Ala	L. S. Barfield	Coffee Springs, Ala	13	2	4	7	4	1	41	38	3	2
Friendship	J. F. Register	Marl, Ala	T. W Capps	Geneva, Ala	5	1	...	5	2	1	75	77	..	3
*Geneva			W. W. Barnett	Geneva, Ala.	...	..	..	....	..	..	....	72	..	..
†Limestone					...	..	..	.....	..	..	....	37	...	..
New Hope			I C. Owens	Holmes, Fla	4	4	3	....	2	1	52	36	16	1
‡New Home					.....	...	..	.....	..	..	.	13	..	.
‡New Prospect					..	.	..	..	..	..	....	18	..	..
New Teman	J. W. Johnson	Graceville, Fla	J S Pumphrey	Warwick, Ala	1	5	1	1	1	..	42	46	...	..
Pleasant Hill	Stephen Lock	Cowart, Ala.	J. G. Lewis	Dundee, Ala	3	..	..	2	...	..	70	66	4	2
Pleasant Grove	A. B Riddle	Holmes, Fla	W. H Grubbs	Ennola, Ala	1	..	..	.....	1	..	43	43	.	4
Pilgrim's Rest	G. J. Canaut	Devonia, Ala	E S. Cumbia	Wieksburg, Ala	....	9	..	2	2	1	67	64	3	3
Shiloh	W. A. Cumbia	Wicksburg, Ala	S. A. Outlaw	Highfalls, Ala	.....	8	..	1	1	..	44	40	4	1
Spring Creek	A. B. Riddle	Holmes, Fla	M. A. Crutchfield	Geneva, Ala	..	..	..	..	..	...	22	22	...	1
Zion Hill	G. J. Canaut	Devonia, Ala	W. L. Chaucey	Devonia, Ala	3	1	..	.....	..	...	17	.....	..	1
Total.					36	30	9	20	13	6	503	599	33	

*No statistical table or letter. †Represented but no report. ‡Not represented.

By adding total membership of last year of churches not represented this year to the membership represented at this Asssociation, we have a total membership of 613.

Two churches reported Sabbath-schools: Friendship and New Hope. Membership, 50.

NOTE.—There is a Sabbath-school at Geneva, but we have no report.

TWO-FOLD : ADVANTAGE.

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